Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The community that is South Dakota is the sum of its parts, and John Vander Plaats chose to make South Dakota his home, the state in which he lives, befriends, works, loves, and worships, and we are richer because John lives among us; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, the day we first breathed air and found our voices, the day we first saw and heard; the day we first were; and,

Whereas, We celebrate the birthdays of those we love to commemorate the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

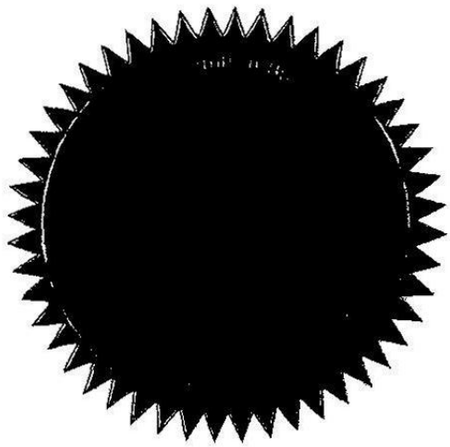
Whereas, John will observe his 83rd Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and relatives gather to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 14, 2003, as

John Vander Plaats Day

in South Dakota, and I join his many friends and relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifteenth Day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.



M Michael Rounds

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

C. Nelson

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State